



## **See Decatur in a Whole New Light**

**Economic Development Corporation of Decatur and Macon County**

March 30, 2011

The Honorable Daniel R. Elliot, III  
Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Suite 1220  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliot:

The Economic Development Corporation of Decatur Macon County supports a strong freight railroad network, not only in our state/region, but across the nation.

As America finally begins to pull itself out of the recession, we do not need to reverse progress by damaging the ability of the rail industry to reinvest and continue to provide strong service.

Our organization is responsible for non-retail business attraction, expansion and retention efforts in Decatur and Macon County. We at the Economic Development Corporation of Decatur Macon County support a healthy freight rail network that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry, supports job growth and continued economic recovery.

We oppose any policy or regulatory changes that would hinder the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We encourage you and members of the Surface Transportation Board to maintain the strong and well-balanced regulatory system we have in place today.

Thank you for our consideration of our position.

Regards,



J. Craig Coil  
President

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